

B. Amendment to the Claims

A listing of all claims in the application is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A porous article comprising:
a substrate; and
a porous material formed on the substrate, the porous material comprising a plurality of columnar pores and an area surrounding the pores, the area being an amorphous area containing C, Si, Ge or a combination thereof,
wherein ~~the porous material is formed on a substrate and~~ the depth direction of the columnar pores is substantially perpendicular to the substrate.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The porous material article according to claim 1, wherein the columnar pores are substantially unbranched.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The porous material article according to claim 1, wherein the average interval between the centers of adjacent pores is 30 nm or less.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The porous material article according to claim 1, wherein the average diameter of the columnar pores is 20 nm or less.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The porous material article according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of pores have substantially the same depth direction.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The porous material article according to claim 1, wherein the area contains aluminum.

7-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A filter prepared by a method comprising:
providing the article porous material of claim 1; and
separating the porous material from the substrate.

24. (Currently Amended) A mask prepared by a method comprising:
providing the article porous material of claim 1; and
separating the porous material from the substrate.